



File Code: 3410/3460 (NA-02-04)  
Date: August 22, 2002

Subject: 2002 Aerial Sketchmapping Survey

To: Mary O'Brien Reddan, Forest Supervisor  
Wayne National Forest

On June 19, 2002, Rick Turcotte and Rod Whiteman of Forest Health Protection (FHP), Morgantown along with Rich Jones, Terry Krasko, Steve Sapio and Tom Thompson conducted an aerial sketchmapping survey of the Wayne National Forest. The accompanying maps show the general locations and types of damage observed during these flights. We have also included the results of the survey performed by the State of Ohio, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

This year, no gypsy moth defoliation was observed within the proclamation boundaries of the Forest. However, moderate to heavy defoliation from other insects was detected in several areas of the Marietta and fronton units. Although ground checking of these sites was inconclusive, the timing of feeding, type of defoliation and species involved has led us to believe that this defoliation was caused by an outbreak of the forest tent caterpillar, *Malacosoma disstria* (Huber). Discoloration and defoliation caused by the locust leafminer, *Odontota dorsalis* (Thumberg) and herbicide spraying of transmission lines was also mapped within the boundaries of the Athens unit. Thirty-one acres of unknown mortality were also mapped on private land within the Ironton unit. The following table shows the number of acres sketchmapped for each unit.

2002 Sketch mapped Damage in Acres

Unit	Forest Tent Caterpillar*	Locust Leafminer	Herbicide	Unknown	Total
Athens	0	320	70	0	387
Ironton	84	0	0	31	112
Marietta	1020	0	0	0	1098
Totals	1,082	320	70	31	1,621

Suspected damage causing agent

The forest tent caterpillar (FTC) is a native insect that can consume part or all of the leaves of most central hardwood tree species. Populations of the FTC have been known to develop rapidly and extend over large areas. Generally, outbreaks do not cause tree mortality in vigorous healthy trees but a reduction in annual growth may occur in trees suffering repeated heavy defoliation. At this time, FHP is not recommending treatment of these outbreaks, but we will



continue to monitor these areas through next year's aerial and ground surveys. More information about FTC is given in the enclosed Forest Insect and Disease Leaflet 9.

Locust leafminer is a native insect that feeds primarily on black locust. Adult and larval feeding causes leaf shot-holing and skeletonization, giving trees a reddish brown appearance. Outbreaks of this insect seem to appear yearly somewhere within its range and may be more visible nuisance than destructive, although heavy defoliation in combination with other stressors, such as drought, may cause some twig dieback but tree mortality has not been documented. More information on the Locust Leafminer is given in the enclosed Pest Alert.

We ask that all field going personnel continue to monitor for the evidence of defoliation, discoloration and mortality in their areas and report any insect and disease activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

I personally would also like to extend my appreciation to Terry, Rich, Steve and Tom for their valuable assistance in this survey. If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte at (304) 285-1544.

Sincerely,

JOHN W. HAZEL  
Field Representative  
Forest Health Protection

Enclosures

Cc: District Ranger, Athens RD w/enclosures  
District Ranger, Marietta RD w/enclosures  
District Ranger, Ironton RD w/enclosures

JWH/RMT